Tourist spots connected by Air

*173. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) how many new tourist spots have been connected by air; and

(b) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to motivate the foreign tourists to identify the new tourist spots?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Identification of new tourist spots is an on-going process. In pursuance of the National Action Plan for Tourism, the Department of Tourism in consultation with the State Government and Union Territories have identified the following 11 travel circuits and 6 destinations:—

Trvel Circuits

1. Kulu-Manali-Leh
2. Gwalior-Shivpuri-Orcha-Khajuraho
3. Bagdogra-Sikkim-Darjeeling-Kalimpong
4. Bhubaneswar-Puri-Konark
5. Hyderabad-Nagarjunacagar-Tirupati
6. Madras-Mahabalipuram-Pondicherry
7. Rishikesh-Narender Nagar-Gangotri-Badrinath
8. Indore-Ujjain-Maheshwar-Omkareshwar-Mandu
9. Jaisalmer-Jodhpur-Bikaner-Barmer
10. Raigad Fort-Jakjira Fort-Kuda Caves-Sirivardhan-Harihareshwar-Sindhudurg
11. Bangalore-Mysore-Hassa

Destinations

1. Lakshadweep Islands
2. Andaman Islands
3. Manali (Solang-Nalah)
4. Bekal Beach
5. Muttukadu Beach
6. Kangra (Pong Dam)

All the above spots are connected directly either by air or through road or railways with the major cities of the country.

Indian Airlines and private air taxi operators based on the demand for air services and technical considreations operate flights to new tourist spots.

The National Airports Authority of India has taken up 12 airports for upgradation as model airports to bring them upto international standards.

Steps taken to promote tourism overseas, include advertising through print and electronic media, printing and distributon of publicity material, extending support to tour operators and travel agents, promoting air charters for tourists, participation in fair and festivals, promoton through direct mail and highlighting the tourist attractions of the country through films, audio-visuals, posters, multi-vision presentations and through personal contracts.

Biogas plants installed in Gujarat

*174. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be peased to state:

(a) what is the district-wise number of bio-gas plants installed in the State of Gujarat during the last three years;

(b) what target has been fixed regarding installation of bio-gas plants during 1994 in the rural and adivasi areas of the State;